

121

From: gregory.meyer@parker.com [mailto:gregory.meyer@parker.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 29, 2010 11:52 AM
To: Lynette Biunno
Subject: Support for Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Parkland

Edina Mayor, City Council, Parks Director, and TRPD Commissioners:

I support the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Edina. While the trail would require a significant investment, I believe the many recreational and practical benefits of a regional trail to Edina residents would outweigh the cost. Also I read in the paper that we already contribute a sizable amount of money to the Three Rivers Park District and it is about time we get something in return. Edina is renowned as a very high quality community. A trail would serve to promote our unique healthy Edina lifestyle and enjoyment of Edina's parks.

A wise investment in a regional trail would be an asset to the community. Recreational facilities are a decision factor for many prospective homeowners and a trail would be a selling point for Edina home sellers.

I believe the regional trail should run through parks enhance the walking and riding experience, versus existing roadways which have increased levels of car exhaust and noise. I ride almost every day in the summer and it can be dangerous to ride on the roads in Edina.

In summary, I urge you to approve the proposed regional trail and select routes through parks.

Sincerely,

Gregory Meyer
5128 Duggan PL
Edina MN 55439-1453

Cell: (952) 250-8842 "PLEASE NOTE: The preceding information may be confidential or privileged. It only should be used or disseminated for the purpose of conducting business with Parker. If you are not an intended recipient, please notify the sender by replying to this message and then delete the information from your system. Thank you for your cooperation."

122

From: Tom and Catherine Beringer [mailto:theberingers@comcast.net]

Sent: Tuesday, June 29, 2010 8:10 AM

To: Commissioners and Planners; Lynette Biunno

Subject: nine mile creek bike trail

Please direct this email to:

Edina Mayor and City Council Members

Edina Parks Director John Keprios

Three Rivers Park District Commissioners

Three Rivers Park District Senior Planner Kelly Grissman

Edina Mayor, City Council, Parks Director, and TRPD Commissioners:

I am writing to support the nine mile creek bike trail (creekside). I am thrilled with the prospect of having a safe place for my family to ride in Edina. It would be a boon to the city and its residents. Most of the surrounding communities have bike trails, and Edina has lacked this amenity. A trail connecting through to neighboring towns would be an asset to the city's residents and an attractive selling point to newcomers. A trail placed roadside would be a huge disappointment, would not be as safe or user friendly, particularly for families, and would not be used as much as a trail with more scenic views.

I sincerely hope you will approve the trail with routes through parks.

Sincerely,

Catherine Beringer

Edina resident

Tom and Catherine Beringer
theberingers@comcast.net

123

From: Chuck Pappas [mailto:chuckpappas@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, June 29, 2010 12:43 PM
To: NineMileTrail@ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org; Lynette Biunno
Subject: Support for Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Parkland

Please direct this email to:

Edina Mayor and City Council Members
Edina Parks Director John Keprios
Three Rivers Park District Commissioners
Three Rivers Park District Senior Planner Kelly
Grissman

Edina Mayor, City Council, Parks Director, and TRPD Commissioners:

I very strongly support the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Edina. I believe the many recreational and practical benefits of a regional trail to Edina residents would outweigh the cost. Edina is renowned as a very high quality community. A safe, comfortable, and inviting trail for walkers, joggers, and riders of all ages and skill levels would serve to promote our unique healthy Edina lifestyle and enjoyment of Edina's parks. Routing the trail onto city streets very much defeats the purpose of the trail and would create an unsafe environment for motorists and cyclists alike.

The regional trail would be an asset to the community. Recreational facilities are a decision factor for many prospective homeowners and a trail would be a selling point for Edina home sellers.

In summary, I urge you to approve the proposed regional trail and select routes through parks.

Thank you for your kind consideration.

Charles and Julie Pappas

124

From: Lutgen, Edward (DOT) [mailto:Edward.Lutgen@state.mn.us]
Sent: Tuesday, June 29, 2010 12:08 PM
To: NineMileTrail@ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org; Lynette Biunno
Subject: Support for Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Parkland

Mr. Hovland, Mrs. Bennett, Mrs. Brindle, Mr. Housh, Mrs. Swenson and Three Rivers Park District:

I support the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Edina. While the trail would require a significant investment, I believe the many recreational and practical benefits of a regional trail to Edina residents would outweigh the cost. I know that my family would use the system to connect to neighboring locations. We are avid bikers who currently have to load bikes to car and drive to get to access to safe biking path. Edina is renowned as a very high quality community. A safe, comfortable, and inviting trail for walkers, joggers, and riders of all ages and skill levels would serve to promote our unique healthy Edina lifestyle and enjoyment of Edina's parks.

A wise investment in a regional trail would be an asset to the community. Recreational facilities are a decision factor for many prospective homeowners and a trail would be a selling point for Edina home sellers.

I believe the regional trail should run through parks enhance the walking and riding experience, versus existing roadways which have increased levels of car exhaust and noise.
In summary, I urge you to approve the proposed regional trail and select routes through parks and along Nine Mile Creek.

Sincerely,
Ed Lutgen
6001 Abbott Ave S
Edina, MN 55410
952-926-2015

125

From: Alexandra Tapper [mailto:Alexandra.Tapper@rasmussen.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, June 29, 2010 11:12 AM
To: NineMileTrail@ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org; Lynette Biunno
Subject: Support for Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Parkland

Please direct this email to:
Edina Mayor and City Council Members
Edina Parks Director John Keprios
Three Rivers Park District Commissioners
Three Rivers Park District Senior Planner Kelly Grissman

Edina Mayor, City Council, Parks Director, and TRPD Commissioners:

I support the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Edina. While the trail would require a significant investment, I believe the many recreational and practical benefits of a regional trail to Edina residents would outweigh the cost. Edina is renowned as a very high quality community. A safe, comfortable, and inviting trail for walkers, joggers, and riders of all ages and skill levels would serve to promote our unique healthy Edina lifestyle and enjoyment of Edina's parks.

A wise investment in a regional trail would be an asset to the community. Recreational facilities are a decision factor for many prospective homeowners and a trail would be a selling point for Edina home sellers.

I believe the regional trail should run through parks enhance the walking and riding experience, versus existing roadways which have increased levels of car exhaust and noise.

In summary, I urge you to approve the proposed regional trail and select routes through parks.

Sincerely,



Alexandra Tapper / Admissions Representative
Rasmussen College - Eden Prairie Online Campus
Direct Line: 952.830.3830 Fax: 1.866.789.5609
Alexandra.Tapper@Rasmussen.edu
www.RasmussenOnline.edu

Toll Free: 1.866.967.7042 ext. 3830

Office hours (Central Standard Time):

126

From: Arlou McPherson [mailto:arloumcpherson@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, June 29, 2010 11:51 AM
To: Lynette Biunno
Subject: Support for Nine Mile Creek

Please direct this email to:

Edina Mayor and City Council Members

Edina Parks Director John Keprios

Three Rivers Park District Commissioners

Three Rivers Park District Senior Planner Kelly Grissman

Edina Mayor, City Council, Parks Director, and TRPD Commissioners:

I support the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Edina. While the trail would require a significant investment, I believe the many recreational and practical benefits of a regional trail to Edina residents would outweigh the cost. Edina is renowned as a very high quality community. A safe, comfortable, and inviting trail for walkers, joggers, and riders of all ages and skill levels would serve to promote our unique healthy Edina lifestyle and enjoyment of Edina's parks.

A wise investment in a regional trail would be an asset to the community. Recreational facilities are a decision factor for many prospective homeowners and a trail would be a selling point for Edina home sellers.

I believe the regional trail should run through parks enhance the walking and riding experience, versus existing roadways which have increased levels of car exhaust and noise.

In summary, I urge you to approve the proposed regional trail and select routes through parks.

Sincerely,

Arlou McPherson

127

From: bjhunke@comcast.net [mailto:bjhunke@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, June 29, 2010 12:42 PM
To: NineMileTrail@ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org; Lynette Biunno
Subject: Support for Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through the Park System

Please direct this email to the following:
Edina Mayor and City Council Members
Edina Parks Director John Keprios
Three Rivers Park District Commissioners
Three Rivers Park District Senior Planner Kelly Grissman

I highly support the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Edina. While the trail would require a significant investment, I believe the many recreational and practical benefits of a regional trail to Edina residents would outweigh the cost. Edina is renowned as a very high quality community. A safe, comfortable, and inviting trail for walkers, joggers, and riders of all ages and skill levels would serve to promote our unique healthy Edina lifestyle and enjoyment of Edina's parks.

A wise investment in a regional trail would be an asset to the community. Recreational facilities are a decision factor for many prospective homeowners and a trail would be a selling point for Edina home sellers.

I fully believe the regional trail should run through the park system to enhance the walking and riding experience, versus placing the trail on existing roadways which increase the levels of car exhaust and noise as well as decreases the safety for bicyclists/pedestrians.

In summary, I urge you to approve the proposed regional trail and select routes through the park system.

Sincerely,
Brian Hunke

128

From: Jerry Fury [mailto:fury@ccf-ideas.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 29, 2010 10:44 PM
To: NineMileTrail@ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org; Lynette Biunno
Subject: NineMileTrail@ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org (Commissioners and Planners)
edinamail@ci.edina.mn.us (Mayor, City Council, and Parks Director)

to whom it may concern:

i have been an edina resident for over 10 years. i am an avid bike rider, riding over 3000 miles a year on my road bike, many of them on city and suburban trails. i totally support the nine mile trail and would hope both your organizations will also support it. the time has come to plan for the future and find alternative transportation like biking. edina needs to take a leadership position with biking and trail systems -- not take a passive-gee-i-don't-know-who-to-do-role. please, do the right thing for our future and the future of edina. support the nine mile trail system.

respectfully,

jerry fury
edina resident, 6508 navaho trail, 55439

--

Jerry Fury
Partner/Creative Director
Clarity Coverdale Fury Advertising
612-359-4323 fury@ccf-ideas.com

129

-----Original Message-----

From: Kevin McPherson [mailto:kbmcperson@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, June 29, 2010 12:48 PM
To: NineMileTrail@ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org; Lynette Biunno
Cc: andrew@heyer.us
Subject: Support for Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Parkland

Please distribute this email to the following:

Edina Mayor and City Council Members

Edina Parks Director John Keprios

Three Rivers Park District Commissioners Three Rivers Park District Senior Planner Kelly Grissman

Edina Mayor, City Council, Parks Director, and TRPD Commissioners:

I support the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Edina. While the trail would require a significant investment, I believe the many recreational and practical benefits of a regional trail to Edina residents would outweigh the cost. Edina is renowned as a very high quality community. A safe, comfortable, and inviting trail for walkers, joggers, and riders of all ages and skill levels would serve to promote our unique healthy Edina lifestyle and enjoyment of Edina's parks.

A wise investment in a regional trail would be an asset to the community. Recreational facilities are a decision factor for many prospective homeowners and a trail would be a selling point for Edina home sellers.

I believe the regional trail should run through parks to enhance the walking and riding experience, versus existing roadways which have increased levels of car exhaust and noise.

In summary, I urge you to approve the proposed regional trail and select routes through parks.

Sincerely,
Kevin McPherson
6311 Doron Lane
Edina, MN 55439
952.943.2646

130

From: Kapsen, Kristin [mailto:kristin.kapsen@rbccm.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 29, 2010 9:10 AM
To: NineMileTrail@ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org; Lynette Biunno
Subject: Nine Mile trail

Please direct this email to:

Edina Mayor and City Council Members

Edina Parks Director John Keprios

Three Rivers Park District Commissioners

Three Rivers Park District Senior Planner Kelly Grissman

Edina Mayor, City Council, Parks Director, and TRPD Commissioners:

I support the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Edina. While the trail would require a significant investment, I believe the many recreational and practical benefits of a regional trail to Edina residents would outweigh the cost. Edina is renowned as a very high quality community. A safe, comfortable, and inviting trail for walkers, joggers, and riders of all ages and skill levels would serve to promote our unique healthy Edina lifestyle and enjoyment of Edina's parks.

A wise investment in a regional trail would be an asset to the community. Recreational facilities are a decision factor for many prospective homeowners and a trail would be a selling point for Edina home sellers.

I believe the regional trail should run through parks enhance the walking and riding experience, versus existing roadways which have increased levels of car exhaust and noise.

In summary, I urge you to approve the proposed regional trail and select routes through parks.

Kristin Kapsen

131

From: Ralph Savage [mailto:thatsavage@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, June 29, 2010 7:20 AM
To: Lynette Biunno
Subject: Support for Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Parkland

Please direct this email to:

Edina Mayor and City Council Members
Edina Parks Director John Keprios

I have just completed reading the story about the Nine Mile Creek potential bike / walking trail project in today's Star Tribune. It appears there is much consideration and debate over the placement of the trail. Really?? As a citizen of Edina it is so clearly a 'no-brainer' choice. The trail should be along the creek where it provides the biggest benefit to the most citizens. Granted, the loudest voices are now of the NIMBY (not in my back yard) contingent. Your respect for their voice and concerns is admirable and necessary. However, the decision has to be based on what is the best for all the citizens of Edina. There are 40,000 silent citizens who probably don't know the issue even exists; but, would benefit from this trail because it will make Edina a better place to live.

When first looking at a community to move to 30 years ago there were three primary reasons Edina was selected - the educational system, the efficiency of the city, and the parks and rec system. The dedication to these must continue for all citizens.

Best regards,
Ralph and Jan Savage
4801 Rolling Green Parkway
Edina, MN 55436

132

From: Scott Johnson [mailto:scottmarjjohnson@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, June 29, 2010 9:13 AM

To: Commissioners and Planners; Lynette Biunno

Subject: Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail

Subject: Support for Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Parkland

Body of email:

Please direct this email to:

Edina Mayor and City Council Members

Edina Parks Director John Keprios

Three Rivers Park District Commissioners

Three Rivers Park District Senior Planner Kelly Grissman

Edina Mayor, City Council, Parks Director, and TRPD Commissioners:

As a 35 year Edina Resident and enthusiastic biker, I strongly support the proposed Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail route proposed through Edina. The proposed route is a logical and wise use of public land for a healthy, environmentally sound project which will be of enormous benefit to the Community and all who use it. The project involves no taking of private land, and while understandably of concern to those adjoining the path, it is a predictable public use of public lands for the public good. I urge you to follow through with this project.

Sincerely

Scott W. Johnson, 3209 Galleria #1402; Edina, Minn. 55435

133

From: Ann Robinow [mailto:annrobinow@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 30, 2010 8:13 AM
To: NineMileTrail@ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org
Cc: Lynette Biunno
Subject: Support for Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Parkland

Edina Mayor and City Council Members
Edina Parks Director John Keprios
Three Rivers Park District Commissioners
Three Rivers Park District Senior Planner Kelly Grissman

Edina Mayor, City Council, Parks Director, and TRPD Commissioners:

Our family has lived in Edina for 25 years and now that the kids are out of school, we are considering moving to Minneapolis. Why? Primarily to be closer to the bike trails. We think we would reconsider moving if we believed a regional trail through parklands that would connect us with the other great trails around the area would be built soon. Biking along the busy streets in Edina is what we do already and it isn't cutting it. Often we put our bikes on the back of the car and drive to a decent trail in another part of the city.

We would assume that having us paying taxes here but with no kids in the school system anymore is a help to the City's bottom line. Schools were a primary factor in moving here, but to keep taxpaying, active empty nesters, Edina needs to consider amenities beyond the schools. While we sympathize with the individuals who will lose their natural view, the investment for the community on city land should prevail.

We urge you to approve the proposed regional trail and select routes through parks.

Sincerely,
Ann and Mark Robinow

5916 Lee Valley Road

Edina, MN 55439

134

From: ARDIBEE@aol.com [mailto:ARDIBEE@aol.com]

Sent: Wednesday, June 30, 2010 4:28 PM

To: Lynette Biunno

Subject: RE:Proposed Bike Path

I have been a resident of Edina for 36 years. In all that time I do not recall a more fiscally irresponsible decision than the proposed \$20 Million for a bike path. No matter where the funding is coming from, I did not vote this City Council into office to have you throw money away. When our grandchildren who also live in Edina have too many children in their classrooms and can't afford to reduce class size; when our property taxes continue to go up while the value of our homes continues to go down; when people including our neighbors have lost their homes due to foreclosure, how can you justify this outrageous expenditure. On top of that, you are threatening wetlands that provide us, our children and grandchildren with wonderful experiences to view nature that includes deer, raccoons, foxes and bald eagles. I am further proposing that you table this idea and use the money to improve what already exists. Reduce class size, reduce property taxes, fund projects that will impact on the majority rather than the minority.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to criticize and complain! As you can see, I really disagree with this proposal and I hope this can be resolved.

Ardis J Blumenthal
6704 Limerick Lane
Edina, MN 55439
(952) 941-6991

135

From: Kirby Schulberg [mailto:kirby@prospectmgmt.net]
Sent: Wednesday, June 30, 2010 2:48 PM
To: NineMileTrail@ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org
Cc: Lynette Biunno
Subject: Support for Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Parkland

Please direct this email to:

Edina Mayor and City Council Members

Edina Parks Director John Keprios

Three Rivers Park District Commissioners

Three Rivers Park District Senior Planner Kelly Grissman

Edina Mayor, City Council, Parks Director, and TRPD Commissioners:

I support the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Edina. While the trail would require a significant investment, I believe the many recreational and practical benefits of a regional trail to Edina residents would outweigh the cost. Edina is renowned as a very high quality community. A safe, comfortable, and inviting trail for walkers, joggers, and riders of all ages and skill levels would serve to promote our unique healthy Edina lifestyle and enjoyment of Edina's parks.

A wise investment in a regional trail would be an asset to the community. Recreational facilities are a decision factor for many prospective homeowners and a trail would be a selling point for Edina home sellers.

I believe the regional trail should run through parks enhance the walking and riding experience, versus existing roadways which have increased levels of car exhaust and noise.

In summary, I urge you to approve the proposed regional trail and select routes through parks.

Sincerely,

Steve and Kirby Schulberg

4421 Fondell Drive

Edina, MN 55435

136

From: gwoessner [mailto:gwoessner777@hotmail.com]

Sent: Thursday, July 01, 2010 11:23 PM

To: Lynette Biunno

Subject: Bike Trail opinion

TO: Edina Mayor and City Council Members

Edina Parks Director John Keprios

Three Rivers Park District Commissioners

Three Rivers Park District Senior Planner Kelly Grissman

I support the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Edina. As a resident, I don't enjoy driving to Hopkins to jump on a trail and we have limited biking opportunities in Edina. I also feel it should go through park land and not on existing streets. Even one death of a biker by a motorist is far too many and would be a tragic result of a wonderful asset. Additionally, there are very steep roads that will be a barrier to access by older adults and young children – one example is the long incline on W. 70th between Cahill and Antrim. A

In summary, we urge you to approve the proposed regional trail and select routes through parks.

Sincerely,

Garry Woessner
6602 Scandia Road
Edina, MN 55439
952-944-5415

137

From: XCapnDale@aol.com [mailto:XCapnDale@aol.com]

Sent: Thursday, July 01, 2010 1:48 PM

To: ninemiletrail@threeriversparkdistrict.org

Cc: Lynette Biunno

Subject: EAW Comments, Nine Mile Trail

Thankyou to Three Rivers Park District and the City of Edina for pursuing this important facility for residents of Edina and neighboring communities.

Route comments:

1. Roads and driveways crossing trails are dangerous for bikers and pedestrians and inconvenient for auto traffic. They also diminish the recreational value of biking and walking because of the close proximity of motor vehicles.
2. Sharp turns, especially those with poor site lines are dangerous for bikers and walkers. If Bredesen Park is used as part of the trail, the existing trail should be widened, the blind curves straightened, and root heaves and sunken trail at one of the creek bridges repaired. I will not ride this trail at present because it is so dangerous and unpleasant.
3. Crossing Highway 62 at Tracy (Route 5F) looks like the best alternative.
4. Trails along creeks or rivers are pleasant and scenic, and usually involve the fewest driveway and road crossings. They also have less impact on adjoining residents than a trail crossing in front of the house. Especially in an urban area, they do not seem to affect wildlife.
5. The proposed trail is an extremely important link to the existing network of trails at both ends. It is the only decent north/south route west of the West River Parkway. A key point is that it will be the only decent link to the I-494 bridge trail, and the numerous jobs and trails on the east side of the river.

There is always opposition to trails and sidewalks that impinge on parkland or right of way that adjacent homeowners have used as their own. This disappears after they discover that not much has changed, except that they often use the new facility, and their home has more sales appeal.

Dale and Judith Simonson
6085 Lincoln Drive, Apt. 216
Edina, MN 55436

138

From: dannyskillings@aol.com [mailto:dannyskillings@aol.com]

Sent: Thursday, July 01, 2010 12:45 PM

To: Lynette Biunno; ninemiletrail@threeriversparkdistrict.org; rep.keith.downey@house.mn

Subject: NINE MILE CREEK BIKE TRAIL

I want to take this opportunity to voice my opposition against the proposed Nine Mile Creek Regional Bike Trail. My reasons for being opposed to this proposal are:

Money:

We could use these funds in other areas where there is a greater need, like repairing our crumbling roads. In addition, Edina would be responsible for maintaining the new bike trail and providing the additional police protection that would be required for those who use the trail and live along side it. Spending millions of dollars on a project that will benefit such a small number of people seems like an inappropriate move in such difficult economic times. This is definitely poor fiscal management.

Habitat:

Hundreds of trees would need to be cut and wetlands damaged that are now home to many species of wildlife and birds. The creek as we know it will never be the same.

Property Values:

Those who live along the creek will lose much of the natural beauty and privacy that attracted them to the property in the first place. There will be increased safety concerns about burglaries and other crimes as a result of greater public access to residential neighborhoods.

Also, the Three Rivers Board of Advisors should be required to hold public hearings on this issue and not just informational meetings.

I appreciate you representing me and the majority of Edina residents on this issue.

Sincerely,

Danny C. Skillings
4393 Mackey Avenue
Edina, MN 55424

139

From: steven.rothberg@gmail.com [mailto:steven.rothberg@gmail.com] **On Behalf Of** Steven Rothberg
Sent: Thursday, July 01, 2010 9:48 AM
To: NineMileTrail@threeriversparkdistrict.org; Lynette Biunno
Cc: Lana Slavitt; Faith Rothberg
Subject: Support for Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail

Dear Three Rivers Park District Commissioners and Planners and City of Edina Mayor, City Councilors, and Parks Director,

I was out-of-town for work so wasn't able to attend last night's information meeting but the creation of this trail is important to my family and me.

One of the reasons that we live in this community is the fairly easy walking and biking access to so many resources whether they be commercial like 50th & France or natural like the lakes. But it is frustrating and at times dangerous to bike from our home near 58th and Ewing to the lakes or other trails. Our kids are older so we do it more frequently now, but families with young children -- the future of our community -- deserve better and this trail will be a huge step in that direction.

Steven Rothberg
5824 Ewing Ave S
Edina, MN 55410
Home: 952-922-8275

Steven Rothberg | Chief Executive Officer

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 sjrcollege



CollegeRecruiter.com Blog [Re-inventing Recruiting: TV Interview About the Power of Mobile Marketing at #SHRM10](#)

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-----Original Message-----

From: Larry Olson [mailto:lolson01@yahoo.com]

Sent: Thursday, July 01, 2010 2:53 PM

To: NineMileTrail@ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org

Cc: Lynette Biunno

Subject: Response to Three Rivers Trail EAW

Please forward to Edina Mayor and City Council Members.

After attending an open house for the Three Rivers trail through Edina - Environmental Assessment Worksheet meeting I would like to provide feedback.

The environmental concerns over a creek based route appear minimal.

I live in the Cornelia neighborhood and almost without exception when a house is

sold a family with small children moves in. These families like my own are looking for safe recreational routes to bike, walk, roller blade, etc through the city and beyond. A creek based route provides the safest alternative. Road

based routes do not provide enough separation from traffic and involve a significant number of driveway crossings. I also look forward to the day when my son and other children from my neighborhood can bike safely to Edina High School.

Thank you,
Larry Olson
6808 Cornelia Dr
Edina, MN 55435

141

From: Tyler, Kara [mailto:KTyler@Briggs.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 01, 2010 12:16 PM
To: NineMileTrail@ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org; Lynette Biunno
Subject: Support for Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Parkland

Please direct this email to:

Edina Mayor and City Council Members

Edina Parks Director John Keprios

Three Rivers Park District Commissioners

Three Rivers Park District Senior Planner Kelly Grissman

Dear Edina Mayor, City Council, Parks Director, and TRPD Commissioners:

As a current Edina resident who intends to remain in Edina for the next eighteen or more years – until the child I am due to deliver in September graduates from Edina High School, just a half block from our home - I strongly support the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Edina, and specifically the placement of the route primarily through park lands rather than on streets. As a parent of two young children, soon to be three, I would highly value a safe, away-from-roadways trail area that we as a family could use for recreation, and to expose our children to the joy of nature within their own community. A bike or walking path along a roadway is, as we all know, very different from a path away from roadways. Even as an adult walker, runner or bike rider, roadways often feel unsafe, congested, and only marginally designed to accommodate non-motorized vehicles. A trail set along the roads would offer little more than already exists in Edina – the opportunity to walk or bike, but in close proximity to vehicles, many of which are traveling too fast and paying little if any attention to pedestrians or bikers.

I understand that certain members of the community (particularly, as I understand it, homeowners whose property abuts the publicly owned park land) are against trails through the park lands. It is my belief that many of the objections are from individual homeowners who have benefitted from their proximity to publicly owned park land, but who now resist this publicly owned land being made available to the PUBLIC rather than remaining the homeowner's "private" park. To deny the public use of publicly owned land, in favor of a minority of vocal homeowners who resist sharing these public

resources, would be a terrible shame and a great loss for Edina residents. The vocal concerns of a few - who do not wish their private park land to be "spoiled" - should not outweigh the benefit to the many residents who could share these marvelous public resources.

While the trail would require a significant investment, I believe the many recreational and practical benefits of a regional trail to Edina residents would outweigh the cost.

Edina is renowned as a very high quality community. A safe, comfortable, and inviting trail for walkers, joggers, and riders of all ages and skill levels would serve to promote our unique healthy Edina lifestyle and enjoyment of Edina's parks.

A wise investment in a regional trail would be an asset to the community. Recreational facilities are a decision factor for many prospective homeowners and a trail would be a selling point for Edina home sellers.

I believe the regional trail should run through parks to enhance the walking and riding experience, versus existing roadways which have increased levels of car exhaust and noise.

In summary, I urge you to approve the proposed regional trail and select routes through parks.

Sincerely,
Kara Tyler

6028 Chapel Drive, Edina

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From: Thatcher Imboden [mailto:TImboden@OurUptown.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 01, 2010 6:55 AM
To: Lynette Biunno
Cc: NineMileTrail@ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org
Subject: Nine Mile Creek

Edina Mayor, City Council, Parks Director, and TRPD Commissioners:

I support the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Edina. I generally support it to be an off-road trail as much as possible, as I believe that the attractiveness and safety of an off-road trail is far greater than on-road path. Therefore, an off-road path would lead to a larger group of people using it than if put on the road with traffic. It would be used by a huge cross section of Edina and region, such as by children with their parents, teenagers exploring the City or going to a friend's house, the elderly getting exercise or running errands, adults out for a spin or a long trek across the city, etc. But there are plenty of on-road trails and I'd question the trails usage if people had to deal with cars and parents worry about whether their somewhat inexperienced child would get slammed by an inattentive driver.

The Nine Mile Creek Trail will connect the region where current trails are somewhat limited.

Please find a way to build an off-road trail for the Nine Mile Creek.

Sincerely,

Thatcher Imboden
5845 Irving Avenue S
Minneapolis, MN
(Frequent shopper/dinner of Edina)

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From: michael bosanko [mailto:mabosank@q.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 01, 2010 3:10 PM
To: Lynette Biunno
Cc: jylaming@threeriversparkdistrict.org
Subject: clarification of my Email of 6/30

Mayor and Council of city of Edina

Please accept the following clarification of my Email I sent to you yesterday re the proposed Nine Mile Creek Reg. Trail

Delete the last paragraph and replace it with the following:

JONATHAN VLAMING, CHIEF PANNER WITH THE THREE RIVERS PARK DISTRICT, STATES THAT THE NUMBER OF YEARLY VISITORS IS THE DISTRICT'S ESTIMATE, AND IF FOR ALL SEGMENTS OF THE TRAIL, INCLUDING RICHFIELD AND HOPKINS, WHICH HAVE A HIGHER POPULATION DENSITY THAN EDINA.

Thanks

Michael Bosanko

Former Commissioner, MPOSC

5226 Ashlar Dr.
Bloomington, MN 55437
952-881-0258 (summer 952-475-0253)
mabosank@q.com

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From: alihul@aol.com [mailto:alihul@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, July 02, 2010 9:30 AM
To: Jennifer Bennerotte; ninemiletrail@threeriversparkdistrict.org
Subject: comments in favor of 9 Mile Trail Creekside segments

Please forward to 3 Rivers Parks Commissioners, Planner Kelly Grissman, Edina Mayor Jim Hovland, Edina City Council Members, and Parks Director John Keprios.

Commissioners, Mayor, and Council Members,
I have recently completed serving on the 9 Mile creek Community Assessment Team. I must first commend the 3 Rivers Park District and its staff for going more than the extra mile to work with the Edina community in planning for this project. The CAT group was a tough audience and the District staff handled all comments and requests for information with efficiency and patience. The optional Environmental Assessment Worksheet report was not completed before our last meeting, so I would like to take this opportunity to comment on that report. Bonestroo has presented a very thorough review of the current conditions along the creek. The report describes a creek habitat that is already severely impacted by the surrounding neighborhoods. The waters are classed as impaired due to run off of fertilizer, lawn pesticides, and road salt. Invasive species of trees and grasses have produced monocultures, yet wildlife is flourishing. No endangered species exist in the project area, and existing wildlife is habituated to the human presence. Multiple point sources of pollution were cited. I have some concern about the ranking of wetland quality using the MnRAM assessment, particularly points credited for aesthetics/ education/ recreation/ public viewing/ and public access. At present these wetlands are not easily accessed or viewed by the public, nor is there any significant recreational value to be documented. The Mn RAM assessment is not fully explained in the document, but seems somewhat arbitrary and qualitative in nature. This would not be terribly important, except that the ranking of wetland quality triggers very heavy mitigation penalties (the highest in the US), and promotes the construction of boardwalks when at grade trails could otherwise be used. I believe a closer review of these wetland rankings is warranted before final designs are discussed. Overall the report confirms that a creek side trail is feasible and poses no environmental threats. I believe that the presence of the trail and the "friends of the 9 Mile Creek Trail" that will inevitable follow it will lead to a substantially improved environment. As you know, people love trails and are quick to adopt and nurture the area once a trail is completed. An area that has fallen victim to dumping and poor environmental practices because it is out of the public view, will have advocates dedicated to its restoration through water quality education, creek clean ups, and a city wide push for environmentally responsible lawn practices.

Alice Hulbert

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-----Original Message-----

From: Conn Newton [mailto:Conn.Newton@CLYNCH.COM]

Sent: Friday, July 02, 2010 7:54 AM

To: Jennifer Bennerotte

Subject: I support the Nime Mile Creek Regional Trail Through Edina

Edina Mayor, City Council, Parks Director, and TRPD Commissioners:

I support the Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail through Edina. While the trail would require a significant investment, I believe the many recreational and practical benefits of a regional trail to Edina residents would outweigh the cost. Edina is renowned as a very high quality community. A safe, comfortable, and inviting trail for walkers, joggers, and riders of all ages and skill levels would serve to promote our unique healthy Edina lifestyle and enjoyment of Edina's parks.

A wise investment in a regional trail would be an asset to the community. Recreational facilities are a decision factor for many prospective homeowners and a trail would be a selling point for Edina home sellers.

I believe the regional trail should run through parks to enhance the walking and riding experience, versus existing roadways which have increased levels of car exhaust and noise.

In summary, I urge you to approve the proposed regional trail and select routes through parks.

Sincerely,

Conn Newton
4049 Colfax Ave South
Minneapolis, MN
55409

Conn Newton
Associate Creative Director, Writer
Carmichael Lynch
110 North 5th Street, Mpls, MN 55403
direct: 612.334.6169
general: 612.334.6000

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From: chesterware@gmail.com [mailto:chesterware@gmail.com] **On Behalf Of** John Powell

Sent: Friday, July 02, 2010 10:18 PM

To: NineMileTrail@ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org; Lynette Biunno

Subject: Support for Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail

Please direct this email to:

Edina Mayor and City Council Members

Edina Parks Director John Keprios

Three Rivers Park District Commissioners

Three Rivers Park District Senior Planner Kelly Grissman

Edina Mayor, City Council, Parks Director, and TRPD Commissioners:

Thank you for providing the information session I attended on Wednesday, June 30th at Southview Middle School.

I've used many of the various trails throughout the Twin Cities area, and I have no doubt that a nice trail along Nine Mile Creek and through the parks in Edina would get a great deal of use and be enjoyed by thousands. In all cases, whether the trail is paved or crushed limestone, the nature around the trails is beautifully preserved and the trails seem to have little or no impact to the surrounding areas. I found this to be true as well, with trails in our own community, such as the one through Bredesen Park, which safely give residents access to beautiful nature areas they otherwise would not have had without harming the environment.

I'll leave it to you to determine if the costs are justified, but if you proceed with the plan to build a trail, please build one that will get used. This is intended to be a recreational trail, and people don't get excited about getting on their bike or walking their dog down 70th street or Valley View Road, no matter how wonderful the trail is. I'd prefer you scrap the entire project than to waste the money on those routes.

A beautiful regional trail will be an asset to Edina and all its residents for generations to come.

I urge you to approve the proposed regional trail and select routes through parks.

Sincerely,
John Powell

6716 Limerick Ln
Edina, MN 55439

jp@mcg.net
952-688-3681

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Rebecca Reinhold** <rjreinhold@gmail.com>

Date: Fri, Jul 2, 2010 at 12:46 PM

Subject: Bike Path

To: ninemiletrail@threesparkdistrict.org

I would like to take this opportunity to express my displeasure in the plan to build a bike path that runs through my personal space. I reside in the complex of Manor Homes of Edina. I did attend one of the presentations showing the choices for the two bike paths. I am concerned for the wild life, however 'ordinary' they are, the deer, cardinals, snakes and turtles. We continue to infringe on their space, making their space smaller and smaller. I also wanted to speak on behalf of the human species who inhabit the area also. No amount of surveys, studies, etc. will ever show the real impact on the people who are in the 'way' of the proposed bike path. I propose that we consider the third proposal and that would be to do nothing.

Just how important is it that we have bike paths that connect with the Grand Rounds? I believe we have survived without them. I am not against bike riders, just voicing a concern for those who will be impacted. I think it is a dichotomy to build bike paths, destroying trees, wetlands, play areas for our kids, filling the air with jack hammers, pylon placing, concrete and tar odors. Then there is the multi million dollar cost. The original cost certainly does not take into consideration the upkeep and security. I don't understand the need for the bike path. I hear, 'this money is earmarked'. Let's 'unearmark' it and find work for someone, help a senior, feed a child.

What I have learned and understand more and more is the overwhelming confusion involved in governmental project. I can only wonder how many surveys, studies and other research that goes on during a big and necessary undertaking. I am not certain whether to become more involved or run in the opposite direction of anything that has a governmental acronym attached.

I will end on the note that my cynicism believes that it is a done deal with all of the presentations being done with a focus on accomplishing due diligence, not allowing for questions. It will be interesting to see if my lonely voice is heard, now that I am following the rules, voicing my concerns during the comment time frame. Thank you for listening.

Vera Norine

From: Braasch, Grant <gbraasch@cdpoly.cargill.com>
Sent: Friday, July 02, 2010 1:55 PM
To: NineMileTrail@ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org
Cc: Braasch, Grant; grant_braasch@hotmail.com; anna_braasch@hotmail.com
Subject: Nine Mile Creek Trail Edina Feedback

I attended the June 30th open house on the Edina trail options and wanted to take this opportunity to formally provide written feedback related to the proposed Nine Mile Creek Trail.

Our address is 5177 Abercrombie Drive so we're one of the 10 or 11 homes on Abercrombie Drive whose backyard would be adjacent to the Route 11 proposal. We just bought our house last September and one of the key selling features for us was the beautiful open space of Abercrombie Park right behind the house. The intent of this feedback is not to lobby for one route over another but to share my thoughts should it be decided to choose Route 11 which would run behind our property. If this route is chosen, my hope is that feedback will be solicited from the specific homeowners who will be impacted regarding the design, location and construction of the trail prior to construction beginning.

- The open space in Abercrombie Park is relatively large compared to some of the other public lands that would be used for the trail. My hope is that the trail would be constructed as close to the creek as possible to maximize the privacy for the homeowners who will be impacted and maintain as much of the existing open park space as possible. From my point of view, it would be a shame if the trail was constructed on or near our back property lines while there is so much open space between the Abercrombie Drive homes' rear property lines and the creek.

- Abercrombie Park currently has a mix of grass that is mowed by the city as well as some tall grasses that are left wild nearer the creek. The mowed grass area also has two soccer goals that are enjoyed by those in the neighborhood. If the trail were able to be routed through the area nearest the creek where the tall grassland area is now, it's possible that the mowed field could remain somewhat undisturbed and that area could still be used as an open park.

- To maximize privacy and possibly provide a better "nature" experience for trail users, I really like the idea of cutting the trail directly through the tall grassland area. At this time of year, much of that grass along the creek is at least 4 - 5 feet high and I believe it's at least 10 - 20 feet wide in places allowing the full rightaway needed for the trail. This would provide for a much less obtrusive trail for the adjacent homeowners and act as a natural security and privacy barrier as well. The grassland would block much of the direct sightline between the trail and adjacent homes, at least during the summer months when the trail would be most heavily used. Whereas, if the trail were to run directly through the middle of the park through the mowed grass, that space would no longer have functionality for anything other than the trail and it would seem to be much less aesthetically pleasing both for trail users and adjacent homeowners. The area of Abercrombie Park behind the five houses on the west end of the park has significantly more of the tall grassland than the four houses on the east end. However, it seems it would be possible to extend the tall grassland on the east side of the park by simply not mowing as much of the open field in order to continue the natural screening of the trail all the way across the park.

- Because the creek is prone to flooding in Abercrombie Park, I expect discussion will take place as to whether a boardwalk or standard asphalt paved trail will be constructed. Because the flooding is infrequent, my preference would be for an asphalt trail to be constructed rather than a boardwalk. My concern is that a boardwalk would result in the constant noise of wheels bumping over the boards whereas an asphalt trail will be much quieter.

- Related to concerns about a loss of privacy, my understanding is that Three Rivers will not provide any privacy screening for adjacent property owners. While I do strongly support the idea of using natural vegetation and grassland as a screen immediately around the trail, I would not want Three Rivers to build a fence or even plant tall trees along the property lines of the adjacent homes. As I noted, a key selling feature for us with this property is the great view overlooking the park and creek. We would be very disappointed if this view was blocked by a privacy fence or trees. If an individual homeowner wants to install a fence or plant trees for privacy, they should do so. However, I don't want this to be automatically done or imposed on residents.

- Some have cited safety concerns regarding plans to not light the trail. My preference is for the trail to not be lit. Cyclists who use the trail system for commuting in dark hours are able to stay safe by utilizing high powered headlamps so there is no need to light the trail for recreational or commuting use. Lights on the trail would only be another annoyance for adjacent property owners and an ongoing cost to maintain.

- One other element related to Route 11 that I want to mention is Monkey Village. I don't know all the history of this unofficial "park" but understand it's been around for over 20 years and that it's a feature that many neighbors cherish. If at all possible, I hope the trail route will be able to bypass this area to allow this unique park to stay intact.

Thanks and I welcome any feedback or follow-up questions,

Grant Braasch
5177 Abercrombie Drive
952-285-9783

To the Mayor and City council members of Edina,

I am writing this letter in opposition to the consideration of Route 5F in the proposed Edina Bike trail project. This route was entered into consideration without any neighborhood representation and is a suboptimal if not poor solution for this trail.

I have been a resident of Edina on 5616 Doron Drive for almost 31 years. During those years I watched many parts of the city changed and improved to promote better view and privacy, like for example on 66th and Valley View across from Southdale. Nothing was done to our area. Instead the city hired Three Rivers Park to encircle our properties and neighborhoods by a trail we don't need or care to pay for.

For a long time the only two segments for route 5 were 5E and 5D only. Without any consideration, 5F was dumped on us. No assessment of the area was done. I am really very upset by 5F, and contrary to CAT's design recommendations, there is no existing pedestrian path on Tracy over East side of highway 62.

Before the council considers or votes on that segment, each one of you should visit and walk along the proposed path.

1. A trail on the east side of Tracy will be an invasion of privacy and a safety concern for the residents on Doron Drive and especially me. My house happens to be located behind the east side of Tracy and the entrance ramp to Highway 62 East. The trail will be passing up on top of a narrow and steep hill allowing pedestrians and bikers to look down into our bedrooms and living spaces. It will be an easy hidden access down the hill, to my yard, and my neighbors. The tree coverage on that hill is very poor in winter, fall, and spring. A privacy wall or a wall of evergreens would be needed to block the view.
2. Route 5F will need many road crossings plus a crossing over the busy entrance ramp to Highway 62 east. The impact of the suggested bridge in that location is big. It will put the path at an even higher point and will give another balcony view into the side and front of my yard and my other neighbor's yard. A bridge over the ramp is unaesthetic in that location.
3. The committee already recommended shifting route 5F from Olinger to Colonial Church route near the fire station. If route 5F is to be considered it should follow the west side of Tracy and pass behind Creek Valley Baptist church. A bridge on the west side over the highway will be less invasive since there are no houses on the west side of Tracy Avenue.

I plead with the members of the city council and all the people involved in this project to seriously address my concerns and reject section 5F. If any of you was living on Doron Drive in my location I am confident that you will vote no for this route over East Tracy across the ramp. Route 5F is a distraction, not a solution.

Please vote no for route 5F. Either adopt 5E or invest the time to find an NEW alternate path that connects the trail. I do not see why the trail should infiltrate every corner of this quadrant of Edina. I am completely opposed to route 5F

Thank you for your efforts to help solve this problem and find a solution that works for not only the general residents of Edina, but for those impacted by the trail.

Thank you,

Nohad Helou

5616 Doron Drive

Edina , MN 55439

952-941-4934

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-----Original Message-----

From: Noah Swiler [mailto:nswiler@comcast.net]

Sent: Sunday, July 04, 2010 10:11 AM

To: NineMileTrail@ThreeRiversParkDistrict.org; Lynette Biunno

Subject: Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail

Dear Mayor, Council Members and Commissioners,

I am writing in strong support of the proposed Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail for Edina. The City of Edina Comprehensive Bicycle Transportation Plan does an excellent job illustrating the myriad of benefits to be derived and I believe this project has been too long in the making. For years my family, friends and I have enjoyed and benefited from the great municipal and regional trails surrounding

Edina- the LRT trail, Cedar Lake Trail, Grand Rounds circumnavigating the lakes, and so on. It's always been very disappointing that I have to bike outside Edina with my children to find well-designed trails providing a safer and more scenic riding environment. We happen to live less than one mile from Valley View and Edina High and yet I forbid my kids to ride their bikes to school as there is really no safe route to utilize if you have to cross Highway 62. I also like to ride up to Jerry's to shop, but competing with the steady stream of cars traveling 40+ miles per hour along Vernon is less than ideal (a well marked bike lane on the south side of Vernon would improve this situation to a degree).

I understand that there is a minority of Edina homeowners living along Nine Mile Creek who believe their quality of life will be impacted negatively if a trail is implemented along the creek. I am of the opinion that in this case, the benefits for the many should override the perceived drawbacks for the few. I, for one, would love to own a property that borders on a regional bike trail and I'm guessing there are many others out there who feel the same. I believe a trail along the creek can be environmentally sound while allowing a greater number of Edina residents to enjoy the beauties of the creek which is after all a public space, not a private one.

Sincerely,
Noah Swiler
Edina